

Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs

2014 Regional Conferences

October 7, 2014 – New Castle

Agenda

- 8:30 am **REGISTRATION**
- 9:00 am **Welcome**
Mayor Greg York, City of New Castle
- 9:15 am **OCRA Introduction**
Susie Ripley, East Central Community Liaison

Overview of agency mission and service structure.
- 9:30 am **Stellar Communities**
Dr. JoAnna Mitchell-Brown, Senior Research Fellow, Housing & Community Development, Sagamore Institute,
Kathleen Weissenberger, State CDBG Director,
Matt Crouch, Project Manager

Overview of the program, eligibility, and requirements as well as the findings from the Sagamore Institute regarding success of the program and suggestions.
- 10:00 am **Indiana Main Street – Economic Restructuring**
Shae Kmicikewycz, Program Manager

Learn more about the basic concept of Economic Restructuring within downtowns. Information on projects other communities working on, partners you should have around the table and more!
- 10:30 am **Community Entrepreneurship Initiative**
Consulting services and training for community economic development leaders, elected officials, and citizens interested in forging local initiatives to grow and retain entrepreneurs.
- 11:00 am **Indiana Shovel Ready Certification**
Matt Crouch, Project Manager

Overview of the program, eligibility and requirements as well as the upcoming online application. Updates on the process for previously certified sites.
- 11:30 am **Lunch**
- 12:00 pm **Keynote Address - Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann and Indiana Economic Development Corporation's President Eric Doden**
- 1:00 pm **Community Readiness Initiative**
Dick Heupel, Director Economic & Community Development, Ball State Building Better Communities,
Sharon Canaday, Associate Director, Economic & Community Development, Ball State Building Better Communities,
Geoff Schomacker, Director of Project Development and Community Affairs

The launch of an innovative community economic development assessment tool.

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2:00 pm **Networking Break**

2:15 pm **Hometown Collaboration Initiative**

Michael Wilcox, Assistant Program Leader, Economic & Community Development, Purdue Extension,
Sharon Canaday, Associate Director, Economic & Community Development, Ball State Building Better Communities,
Geoff Schomacker, Director of Project Development and Community Affairs

The launch of a brand new organizational model for communities to build their leadership pipeline, grow their economy and leverage their quality of place.

3:15 pm **Indiana Main Street - Event Planning 101**

Shae Kmicikewycz, Program Manager

Events can be a challenge in any community. Learn some helpful tips to making your events more successful from volunteers to evaluation. This will be an interactive session, so come prepared to share what works in your community!

3:45 pm **Investing in Place:**

Community Enhancement and Economic Development

Kathleen Weissenberger, State CDBG Director

The Community Enhancement and Economic Development (CEED) section 108 program provides communities with a source of loan financing for economic development, housing rehabilitation, public facilities, and other large-scale projects.

Place Based Investment Fund

Colette Griffin, Project Manager

The Place Based Investment Fund (PBIF) is a competitive grant program that funds efforts by Indiana communities to become even greater places to visit, live, and work.

Downtown Enhancement Grant

Shae Kmicikewycz, Program Manager

The Downtown Enhancement Grant (DEG) program is designed to foster innovative approaches to activities, which support and promote community based planning, pre-development, and research initiatives.

Main Street Revitalization Program

Jill Curry, West Central Community Liaison

The Main Street Revitalization Program (MSRP) encourages communities with eligible populations to focus on long-term community development efforts.

4:30 pm **Adjourn**